RE-ELECT
CAROLINE SHELLEY
TO SGA

Vote on Wednesday, April 8th at 8:00 am - Thursday, April 9th at 4:00 pm at uvm.edu/clubs

My Platform

COVID-19 Response:

- **The University must reimburse students for ALL resources that we paid for and are no longer able to access.** This includes: housing, dining points/meal-plans, etc. The University of Vermont is one of the most expensive state schools in the country and at a time when tuition costs in the United States are higher than ever before, and many students and parents are unfortunately becoming unemployed due to this crisis, we must urge UVM to do the right thing.

- The University **must institute an optional pass/fail grading system for all undergraduate students.** Myself and my fellow Senators on the SGA Committee of Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity plans to release a Resolution urging UVM to institute an optional
pass/fail grading system for all UVM students. Simply put - we did not sign up for this. We did not sign up to take online classes, nor did our professors sign up to teach them. This interruption has put all students at UVM at a disadvantage as we are no longer able to meet professors and TA’s in person, to access libraries, computer labs, affinity spaces, and many students do not have stable internet connections at home. Students who live in different time zones are now limited due to scheduled lectures with this abrupt change mid semester. Additionally, this abrupt change has also left many students without housing or adequate meals at home. Several other universities have instituted optional pass/fail grading systems amidst COVID-19 including Yale University, Georgetown University, Syracuse University, and Northwestern University. It is time for the University of Vermont to do the same.

- **Our seniors deserve a graduation ceremony.** Reschedule graduation, do whatever it takes, but our seniors deserve a graduation ceremony that they have worked so hard for!

- **Fight for the removal of the clause in all undergraduate student housing contracts which states,** “In the event that the University of Vermont closes due to a calamity or catastrophe beyond its control that would make continued operation of student housing infeasible, such as a natural disaster, a national security threat, or widespread pandemic flu, room and meal plan fees will not be refunded.”
SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT/HARASSMENT:

The University of Vermont unfortunately falls far behind many other universities in terms of on campus resources available for those who are survivors of sexual harassment and assault.

We must:

- Have more than one Campus Victims Advocate for over 11,000 undergraduate students. We know that millions of women across the country have unfortunately experienced sexual assault and or harassment, in fact 1 in every 6 women in the United States has experienced sexual violence. Simply put, the University of Vermont must do better. One Campus Victims Advocate, who holds only one identity, is simply not enough for over 11,000 undergraduate students.

- Implement the Live Safe App so that every student can report sexual assault, harassment, and/or suspicious activity directly to UVM Police from their phone, and have the option to do so anonymously, on campus, or off campus, and in privacy. In addition to the current Blue Light System the Live Safe App will allow students to report sexual assault and or suspicious activity from their phone and in privacy. We know that most harm unfortunately happens behind closed doors, and as a result survivors often feel less inclined to utilize the Blue Light Systems to report sexual assault as they are located outside and in public areas. While the Blue Light Systems are great for walking through...
campus late at night, we know that many students venture off-campus on the weekends to parties or downtown to the bars, the Live Safe App will allow students to report suspicious activity/harassment regardless of your location on or off campus.

- **We must insure that UVM Fraternities attend mandatory sexual assault/harrassment trainings.** It is essential that all UVM Fraternities not only attend these trainings, but report their attendance numbers/percentages to UVM Fraternity and Sorority Life, *it is time that UVM Fraternities be held to the same standards that we hold our UVM Sorority women to.*

- **Continue the implementation of SGA’s Sexual Violence Awareness Month.** Sexual Violence Awareness Month is a month long series of events during April that bring advocacy, prevention-work, and healing to our campus community. We must bring together as many UVM clubs and organizations as possible to implement Sexual Violence Awareness Month.

**TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY IN SGA:**

- **We need annual sexual harassment and assault trainings/workshops in SGA.**

- **We need to enforce and explain the proper way of reporting misconduct in the workplace to all SGA Senators.**

- **We need to create a new and just policy for removing students credibly accused of misconduct, sexual harassment, or sexual**

RE-ELECT CAROLINE SHELLEY TO SGA
assault in any club or organization on campus including SGA. Unfortunately, the overwhelming majority of sexual assaults on college campuses go unreported. Therefore the Title IX office simply cannot be the only resource that advocates for survivors on our campus.

- Ensure that any SGA Senator who chooses to report misconduct or file a motion for the impeachment of another Senator on the SGA body can have the option to do so anonymously and in private. We must insure that those who are reporting misconduct or sexual harassment allegations can have the option to do so anonymously and in private so that they do not have to fear for their safety or worry about being shamed, blamed, or otherwise.

- Ensure that all documents and testimony submitted during an SGA impeachment make it into the hands of the SGA Constitution Committee so that they can make a fair, balanced, and informed decision in regards to impeachment.

- In the event of an impeachment involving sensitive information we must ensure that the SGA President, SGA Vice President, and Director of Student Life utilize resources on our campus such as CAPS, UVM Police, and the Campus Victim’s Advocate should the situation pertain to the safety and wellbeing of any UVM students or SGA senators.
TITLE IX REFORM:
Over the past few weeks, I have been humbled beyond words to have had so many UVM students share their stories of surviving sexual harassment and or assault with me. I want to first thank every friend, every friend of a friend, and every UVM student who I have never met who has shared their stories with me. While heartbroken, I am so grateful that you have trusted me with your stories. At the very least I want you to know - I believe you. And I support you.

- Unfortunately, we know that 90% of sexual assaults on college campuses go unreported. This is because Title IX is a broken system in desperate need of reform. The system of Title IX unfortunately creates more trauma for survivors of sexual assault as it blames and shames victims and defends the accused. It is long overdue - UVM’s sexual misconduct policies must be fundamentally reformed.

STUDENT SAFETY/ WELLBEING:
Students deserve to have adequate mental health services and not be forced to wait weeks or even months for a CAPS appointment.

- We must increase the funding and staff for CAPS so that they can do their job and serve all UVM students who want and or need their services. To fill in the gaps as CAPS grows, UVM must bring mental health resources from the surrounding
communities and make these other resources more accessible to students.

- **We must increase mental health training for UVM Police and security, as well as our RA’s.** In moments of crisis, the UVM police and our RA’s can be the first to respond to such matters. We must support the UVM Police Force and or our RA’s in making sure they are equipped to help our community.

- **Extended the late night UVM On-Campus and Off-Campus Bus Routes to Redstone.** Simply put, a large portion of students live on Redstone campus and it is extremely dangerous for students to be forced to walk from the Patrick Gym in the late hours of the evening and early morning especially in the winter time in which we experience extremely cold temperatures.

- **Ensure the success and growth of SGA’s new on-campus food pantry, Rally Cat’s Cupboard.** 1 in 5 UVM students has experienced food insecurity at some point during their time at UVM. While the grand-opening of Rally Cat’s Cupboard is a great step in the right direction but we need to continue to combat food insecurity on our campus.
IDENTITY- CENTERS AND DIVERSITY:

It is essential that we continue to combat bigotry in all forms including racism, anti-Semitism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia on our campus. We must continue to uphold the Committee of Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity’s constitution to address concerns in the areas of diversity, equity, social justice, and inclusion.

- Work with my fellow Senator, Maddie Henson, to build a plague or statue in front of the Howe Library to remember the survivors and victims of Bailey Eugenics Survey. We hope that this project is a healing and overall positive beacon on campus to all people, indigenous, or not. We must never forget UVM’s shameful history of eugenics and we must continue our indigenous advocacy here on the Committee of Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity.

- Advocate for a permanent Prism Center space. The UVM Prism Center has been serving the diverse queer and trans community since 1999 and is long overdue for them to have a space to call its
own. We must do everything we can to ensure that the Prism Center has a permanent location.

- **Make the Diversity Enhancement Fund and other supplemental funds more easily accessible to all students who wish to bring diversity initiatives and/or events to campus.** We must continue to advertise these funds for students and identity centers so that all students know that this resource is there for them.

- **Advocate for increased funding for all of the identity centers on our campus.**

- Work with the Committee on Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity including Senator Julia Lanz-Duret to create more inclusive events for the international community here at UVM.

- Increase the amount of free menstrual products in as many bathrooms on campus as possible regardless of whether the bathroom is gendered or not.
- Advocate for more gender-inclusive bathrooms across our campus in libraries, academic buildings, etc.

- Support our identity centers such as the Center for Cultural Pluralism, Interfaith Center, Prism Center, Mosaic Center, Office of International Education, Student Accessibility Services and Women’s Center. We must strive to have better communication with cultural, diversity, and religious SGA recognized clubs and other organizations.

- Work towards a better communication and collaboration between SGA and other identity centers and clubs on campus, by working to meet with them monthly, and inviting them to our weekly SGA Committee of Diversity, Inclusion, & Equity meetings. Unfortunately many UVM students do not feel that SGA adequately represents them, we must do everything that we can to continue to promote transparency within SGA. All UVM students on our campus have a right to know how their tuition dollars are being spent and how their elected public officials are performing in their offices. By inviting more UVM students such as leaders of identity centers, presidents of clubs, and student activists to our weekly SGA Committee on Diversity, Inclusion,
and Equity meetings we hope to promote more transparency by sharing our committee projects and initiatives with students and work in collaboration with UVM students to hear their needs.

- Advocate for increased attendance by UVM recognized fraternity and sorority chapters at their mandatory diversity and inclusion workshops and trainings.

- **Insure that professors across all colleges respect and follow the current policies around religious holidays for their students.**

- Support organizations such as UVM Sister’s of Color and the Jewish Council of Sorority Women and their missions to celebrate differences, build community between sorority chapters, and encourage POC as well as jewish visibility within UVM Fraternity and Sorority Life.

- **Make campus more accessible for students with disabilities and work to bridge the gap between Professor’s and Student Accessibility Services.**

**ACADEMICS:**

**RE-ELECT CAROLINE SHELLEY TO SGA**
- Advocate for all professors across all colleges to include at least 2 to 3 sentence course descriptions, as well as making partial syllabi available to students during registration. Students need more information about their courses before registering for classes to make better and more informed decisions on course registration day.

- Advocate for increased funding for the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences is one of the largest here at UVM yet it continually gets unnecessary budget cuts. We must not only ensure that there are no more budget cuts to the College of Arts and Sciences but we must also increase its funding.

- Fight for increased library hours during finals week. We must have library hours open 24/7 during finals week to ensure the success of all UVM students.

THE ENVIRONMENT:

- Advocate for the Board of Trustees to divest from fossil fuels. We must continue to put increased pressure on the Board of Trustees and the administration to divest from fossil fuels. The
Board of Trustees must share their timeline for divestment with the UVM community.

- We must continue to support organizations such as *UVM Organize* in any way that we can to see that the Board of Trustees releases it’s plan to divest from fossil fuels.

- **Support SGA’s Committee on the Environment and its current projects to lessen one-use plastics on campus and it’s initiative to promote the use of sustainable goods and giveaways.**

- Continue to advocate for the ban of single use plastic bags in places on campus such as the UVM bookstore.

- Increase the number of trash cans, recycle bins, and composts on campus, including outside of academic buildings and dining halls.

- **Support the Sustainable Campus Fund, as it will allow our tuition dollars to be spent promoting more sustainability initiatives on campus.**
Vote for Caroline Shelley on Wednesday, April 8th at 8:00 am - Thursday, April 9th at 4:00 pm at uvm.edu/clubs